VZCZCXRO4075 OO RUEHDBU RUEHFL RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHNP RUEHROV RUEHSL RUEHSR DE RUEHPG #0124 0571050 ZNY CCCCC ZZH O 261050Z FEB 10 FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2214 INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY 0731 RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0004 RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0289

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 000124

STPDTS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/26/2020

TAGS: <u>IO PHUM PREL UNGA EZ</u>
SUBJECT: CZECH REPUBLIC TO ABSTAIN ON GOLDSTONE UNLESS

ANOTHER EU MEMBER VOTES AGAINST

REF: A. PRAGUE 120

¶B. 26 FEBRUARY 2010 CARNIE-GRAY TELCON
¶C. 26 FEBRUARY CARNIE-DAVIS TELCON

Classified By: Political-Economic Counselor Charles O. Blaha, reasons 1 .4 (b) and (\bar{d}) .

- $\underline{\P}1$. (C) Czech Political Director Ivo Sramek informed us on February 26, contrary to what we were told on February 25 (ref A), that the Czech Republic is now considering abstaining instead of voting no on the February 26 vote on the Goldstone report resolution. According to Sramek, the Czech Republic now appears to be alone within the EU in its opposition to the resolution. On the merits, the Czech Republic remains opposed to the resolution, but feels it will not be able to vote no if it is "absolutely isolated" within the EU. Sramek did state that the Czechs would vote no if "one or two" other EU members also vote no.
- $\underline{\P}2$. (C) Sramek said that the Netherlands may be in the same position as the Czechs, i.e., wanting to vote against but not if they will be the lone EU "no" vote. We have alerted Embassy The Hague (ref B) as well as USEU (ref C). Thompson-Jones